

Natshe, Freij condemn assassination

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Arab leaders in the Israeli-occupied West Bank condemned the assassination in Amman Saturday of top Palestinian official Fahd Al Qawasmeh, a former mayor of Hebron. Mustafa Natshe, who became mayor of the West Bank town after Mr. Qawasmeh was removed from the office and expelled by the Israelis in 1980, said the killing was "a terrible act." Mr. Natshe said: "All of us in the West Bank condemn the murder. We want our political disputes to be settled by democratic means, not assassination." Mr. Natshe said he will ask the Israeli occupation authorities to permit Mr. Qawasmeh's body to be brought back to Hebron for burial. Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said the killing was "an act of madness. Political killings make no sense." Mr. Qawasmeh, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Executive Committee, was shot outside his Amman home by two gunmen.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Obeidat urges education planning

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Saturday expressed the government's concern to develop education in the Kingdom and said that success in this field was an inevitable necessity. During a meeting he chaired at the Ministry of Education, Mr. Obeidat said the government was concerned to achieve a "qualitative jump" in the educational system in a way that guarantees the development of education in the Kingdom. He stressed on the importance of planning for education which he described as a prerequisite for development in the other sectors of the society, mainly the economic sector. He said that administrative development, military service and the participation in planning depended largely on education received in schools. The prime minister emphasised that modern scientific methods should be implemented in the Kingdom mainly in relation with computers and closing the gap in the shortage of skilled professional and technical expertise.

Volume 9 Number 2756

AMMAN, SUNDAY DECEMBER 30, 1984, RABIA THANI 7, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Hassan returns after ICIHI meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan returned home Saturday after attending the meetings of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues held in the Hague on Dec. 15. Prince Hassan and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan co-chaired the conference which was attended by Holland's Queen Beatrix and her husband Prince Claus. Prince Hassan presented to the conference a report on an ICIHI seminar on child protection held in Amman.

Khasawneh named ALO candidate

AMMAN (Petra) — The government has nominated Dr. Saleh Al Khasawneh, under-secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, as a candidate for post of director general of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO). The post of the director general will be filled through election during the forthcoming session of the ALO which will be held in Baghdad in March.

Palestinian shot dead in Sidon

SIDON (R) — A former official of a Palestinian commando group was shot dead by unidentified men at the 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp near Sidon Saturday, security sources and residents said. They named the man as Abdul Rahman Al Qablawi, but did not specify to which group he belonged. No further details were available.

Israeli wounded in W. Bank attack

TEL AVIV (AP) — An unidentified man injured an Israeli truck driver Friday near the occupied West Bank village on Aboud, northwest of Jerusalem, military sources said. The driver, who worked for an Israeli company laying a road near the village, was wounded in the stomach by the man, who fired at a group of Israeli workmen from a range of about 50 metres. Israel radio and television reported.

South Africa seeks Somali landing rights

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Foreign Minister R.F. Botha visited Somalia last week and discussed landing rights there for South African Airways jets on European runs, a South African daily reported Saturday. South Africa is barred from landing in most black African countries because of its apartheid (race segregation) system that denies citizenship rights to the black majority.

Mauritanian leader reappoints ex-minister

NOUAKCHOTT (R) — Mauritania's President Mohammed Maouya Sidahmed Ould Taya has fired Foreign Minister Cheikh Sidahmed Ould Babamine after only 17 days in office, an official statement said Saturday. In his place, he reappointed Lieutenant-Colonel Ahmad Ould Minnih who held the job under former President Mohammed Khouna Ould Haïdalla, ousted in a palace coup on Dec.

Unknown gunmen assassinate Qawasmeh near his house

By Lamis K. Andoni and Saleem B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Fahd Al Qawasmeh, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee, was shot dead near his house in Amman Saturday noon in front of his six-year-old son.

Mr. Qawasmeh, long considered a moderate in Palestinian ranks, was elected member of the PLO Executive Committee by the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman last month.

The 45-year-old mayor of Hebron, who was deported by the Israeli occupation authorities because of his staunch nationalistic stands and refusal to cooperate with the occupation authorities, has been living in Jordan since his Israeli-



Fahd Qawasmeh

imposed exile in May 1980. Eyewitnesses told the Jordan Times Saturday that the assassination took place around 2 p.m. while Mr. Qawasmeh was going home for lunch after attending a PLO meeting. A reporter of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, and his wife were wounded while trying to block the escape of the assassins.

Shafiq Obeidat and his wife Rasmieh were on their way to pick up their son from a childcare centre in the Jabal Hussein neighbourhood where Mr. Qawasmeh lived when they saw two persons throwing a grenade, which did not explode, and opening fire with silenced-equipped guns at the PLO official who was getting down from his car.

Mr. Obeidat tried to block the escape of the killers with his car, but the two assassins shot and wounded him on his hand and his wife on her leg.

Mr. Obeidat was treated for his hand wound and released from hospital. His wife remained in hospital under treatment for her leg wound.

There was no information as to who could have been the killers, whose three bullets killed Mr.

Qawasmeh instantly.

By Saturday evening several versions of the assassination, the first of its kind in Amman, indicated that it could have been the result of a well-planned plot.

Muammar, Mr. Qawasmeh's six-year-old son who has his father's blue eyes and fair skin, told reporters he saw his father fall down after being shot and a man wearing green running away. "I was playing with a friend in the neighbouring building when I heard several 'clicks'," he said. "We ran outside and saw my father falling down and a man wear-

ring green trousers and sweater running away, and I realised by father has been killed," he said.

Although Muammar was responding calmly to reporters' questions, it was evident that he was in a state of deep shock. He was moving around the house looking at everyone with a haunted look in his eyes and refusing to eat or drink.

Mr. Qawasmeh's elder son, 18-year-old Omar, also said he saw the assassins and there were two of them.

"My father parked his car in

(Continued on page 2)

King sends cable of condolences to Arafat

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable of condolences to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat over the assassination of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd Qawasmeh outside his home in Amman.

In his cable to Mr. Arafat, who is currently in Aden, South Yemen, the King said: "With deep sorrow and pain I received this afternoon the news of the assassination of Fahd Qawasmeh, a member of the PLO Executive Committee by cowardly hands as he was on his way to enter his home."

The King said Mr. Qawasmeh "lived for Palestine, worked for Palestine and struggled for it to gain the confidence of his people when he was elected as head of the highest local council (mayor of Hebron) to continue serving his country and people under Zionist occupation."

"The Israeli authorities then uprooted him from the land he loved and he settled in Amman to continue his struggle all over the world explaining his people's cause and challenging the enemy," the King said. "The assassination of Fahd Qawasmeh is a continuation of what the enemy started when they expelled him from the struggle arena in his homeland," he added.

"Those who planned and carried out this criminal act cannot be but cowardly agents who put themselves at the disposal of the enemy which uses terror as means of achieving its aims."

Gemayel-Assad talks improved hopes for peace, Karami says

BEIRUT (R) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami said Saturday talks between the presidents of Lebanon and Syria had improved hopes for "security, reforms and liberation," but a car bomb blast and new fighting near Beirut kept tension high.

President Amin Gemayel returned from Damascus Friday night after a two-day summit with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, seen here as aimed at mapping out a strategy for stalled troop withdrawal talks with Israel and halting factional violence.

After being briefed by Mr. Gemayel, Mr. Karami told reporters the outcome of the talks "caused optimism about progress towards the goals of security, reforms and liberation." He urged rival Lebanese factions to make concessions in the national interest.

As he spoke, a car bomb exploded in the Druze town of Shwifat just south of Beirut, killing four people and wounding seven.

Egypt wants peacekeeping force in Taba

CAIRO (R) — Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said Saturday Egypt wanted a peacekeeping force in the disputed coastal strip of Taba in Sinai to prevent Israel from perpetuating a status quo.

Mr. Ali told the weekly newspaper Akhbar Al Yum in an interview that an extended mandate for the Sinai Multi-national Force and Observers (MFO) in the Israeli-controlled Taba would "limit the Israeli presence until talks begin on Taba."

The MFO has been policing the Egyptian-Israeli border since Israel's final pullout from Sinai in April 1982.

Egypt has been at loggerheads with Israel over control of the one-kilometre strip south of Israel's port of Eilat since 1982.

He said an MFO deployment in Taba would also prevent the concentration of Israeli police there and the imposition of a status quo until talks on a final settlement begin.

A U.S.-sponsored accord reached in 1982 between Egypt and Israel called for international arbitration if bilateral talks failed to reach a settlement.

what we want," the prime minister declared.

The deployment is designed to halt factional fighting in the Kharrub region just north of the Awail and to prepare for an army takeover of the south if Israel withdraws.

Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri had threatened to boycott the cabinet if Saturday passed with no action decided on the plan.

Mr. Karami said Lebanon would continue to seek an unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops at U.N.-hosted talks that recessed on Dec. 20. Israel has said it may break off the talks, due to resume on January 7, unless Lebanon softens its stand (See page 2).

Beirut was effectively cut in two Saturday as relatives of some of the hundreds of people seized by rival militias during Lebanon's nearly 10 years of civil war blocked all crossing points between mostly Christian and predominantly Muslim sectors.

The officer, contacted at the joint staff headquarters in Tehran, did not elaborate.

It was the first officially-reported aerial dogfight in the Gulf war for many weeks.

The Misan sector is in the central zone of the two countries' long war front. Iraq has said several times recently that Iran was massing troops for a new ground offensive in the region and Iraqi warplanes have launched almost daily raids against Iranian positions.

The Gulf war has been going on since September 1980. This year, it was expanded to include attacks by both sides against merchant shipping in the waterway itself (See page 2).

The Iraqis, according to recent media reports, were "ready to smash and wipe out the Iranians" if they attacked in Misan zone.

Iraqi field commanders were also quoted as saying their forces have acquired new unidentified types of sophisticated weapons and threatened that they will use them to "attack deep inside Iran" if a fresh Iranian offensive was launched.

The latest Iranian offensive against Iraq was reported late last September across the northeastern Seif Saad mountains, referred to by the Iranians as the Meimak Heights. The Iraqis said they "repulsed and crushed" the attackers and the Iranians claimed "liberating" the Meimak Heights.

Both claims were not independently verified.

Iraq says 2 Iranian fighter jets shot down in Misan

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said its warplanes Saturday shot down two Iranian F-4 fighter planes over the Misan sector of the Gulf war front.

A military spokesman said the Iranian jets had tried to intercept Iraqi planes raiding Iranian positions in the region.

The Iraqi planes shot both Iranian fighters down at 11.45 a.m. (0845 GMT), he said without giving further details.

In Tehran, an Iranian military officer conceded Iraqi forces may have downed one Iranian aircraft but the Iraqi assertion to have shot down two Iranian planes was incorrect.

The officer, contacted at the joint staff headquarters in Tehran, did not elaborate.

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His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat (left) and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abed Khalaf Daoudieh attend the opening session of the first annual conference on Islamic preaching and guidance (Petra photo)

King opens conference on Islamic guidance Hussein strongly condemns assassination of Qawasmeh

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday strongly condemned the assassination of Fahd Qawasmeh, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee, who was shot to death by unknown assailants in Amman earlier in the day.

"My eyes are full of tears and my heart is bleeding for Fahd Al Qawasmeh, the man who sacrificed his life for his town Hebron, and his country, Palestine," the King said in a speech opening the first annual conference on Islamic preaching and guidance.

Turning to the central theme of the three-day conference, the King called on Arab Islamic scholars to improve and strengthen preaching methods of the Islamic religion "which is essential to raise the conscience and moral of every Muslim wherever he is."

"This conference, the first of its kind in Jordan, is being held at a time when the Islamic personality

is confronting the threat of liquidation and dissolution resulting from the modernisation of communications between nations, thereby decreasing the size of the whole world," King Hussein said.

The King said the Islamic World is "fighting this threat by running away and by increasing Islamic fanaticism and racialism." But such responses to the threat are "the wrong way of fighting and approach," he said. "We have to act according to the development and changes that is taking place in the world, because the message of Islam is characterised by a comprehensive outlook and open mindedness rather than racialism," he added.

Addressing the audience of over 200 participants and Islamic scholars, King Hussein stressed the importance of the basic constituents in Islamic preaching methods.

"The preacher should have strong personality, should avoid any contradiction in his speeches, especially any contradiction between what he preaches and what

he practises, and should be aware of the social, cultural and economic differences among groups in one society in order to be able to address them and to tackle the right problems they face," he said.

King Hussein highlighted the danger of "racism and fanaticism that our enemies are exploiting and using in order to dominate our land and our resources."

"In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate, I open your conference, hoping you will use reason in your scientific debate, and will adopt recommendations that would serve our nation," the King concluded.

Prior to the King's speech, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Khalaf Daoudieh addressed the audience and outlined the aims of the conference.

The conference, the minister said, "aims at reorganising and rectifying Islamic preaching, religious exhortation and guidance in Jordan." It also aims at defining new methods and steps for such

(Continued on page 3)

Gandhi hails massive election win as start of new Indian era

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, hailing a new era for India, swept to an unprecedented election victory Saturday and called it a vote for the future.

Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party captured more than two-thirds of the seats in parliament, all but demolishing the main national opposition groups and for the first time leaving a regional party as the main anti-government force in the lower house.

Only one of the opposition leaders, Charan Singh, 82, survived the Gandhi avalanche. Other top opposition men like right-winger Atal Behari Vajpayee lost their seats in a rout which prompted Mr. Singh to ask: "Me alone? What good is that?"

With Congress possibly destined to capture over 400 of the 508 seats at stake in the election, the major responsibility for opposition will lie with a regional party from Andhra Pradesh state called Telugu Desam.

With most of the seats declared, the largest single opposition bloc was 25 seats, won by the Telugu Desam Party headed by former movie star N.T. Rama Rao. The party, whose name means "Telugu-speaking land," fielded candidates only in Andhra Pradesh.

Among other opposition parties, the pro-Chinese Communist Party won 12 seats and the pro-Soviet Communist Party took three. Their losses were substantial, the pro-Chinese Communists had 36 seats in the outgoing parliament and the pro-Soviet Communists had 13.

The Janata Party, which ruled India between 1977 and 1979, won eight seats, compared to 21 in the outgoing parliament. Its offshoot, the Bharatiya Janata, had two, compared to 16 previously. Other seats were split among Congress party allies, small opposition groups and independents.

Mr. Gandhi, at 40, India's youngest prime minister, told reporters: "The voters have looked to the future."

He said he would announce his new cabinet in the next couple of days, the sort of speedy action which would confirm the decisive image he tried to project in containing anti-Sikh violence after the Oct. 31 assassination of his mother Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

"All I can think about is how to solve our problems and the overwhelming responsibility and trust that have been given to me," said the newly-endorsed leader of 70 million people.

The triumph of his campaign geared to national unity and swift technological development became obvious not only with the Congress (I) sweeps in New Delhi and the surrounding Hindi heartland but also in state like West Bengal.

There, and especially in Calcutta, the party made big inroads into a region long controlled by a Communist-led left front and seemed set to take six of seven left-held seats.

The elections covered the whole country except the states of Assam and predominantly Sikh Punjab, where authorities feared polling would set off new sectarian violence.

Mr. Gandhi said Saturday India had a lot of problems and one of the biggest was Punjab state.

"We have some ideas of what to do and it is one of the issues which will receive our foremost attention," he said.

He said his massive majority, more than two-thirds of the seats, made it much easier to carry out his plans.

Asked if there would be sweeping policy changes, he replied: "There will be sufficient changes."

After celebrating far into the night, thousands gathered Saturday near the victorious Gandhi's official residence in New Delhi to hear him formally claim victory and declare:

"This is definitely the start of a new era for India."

Elephants bearing the orange, green and white colours of Congress (I) and portraits of Indira Gandhi carried shouting supporters through the streets while a flamboyantly clad Sikh sounded strident victory themes on a bugle.

Men and women danced to drums and chanted slogans in praise of the prime minister and his murdered mother.

Candidates who had won for the Congress (I) in its sweep of all seven Delhi seats draped garlands around the neck of their young leader who, in his speech, reminded them that their party was currently marking its 100th anniversary.

"I fully expect another 100 years," the beaming prime minister told his audience.

"The massive support given me by the people gives me great confidence."

Newspapers vie for best headlines to describe Gandhi's victory, page 8

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Currency International

See details on page 5

هنا عن الأصل

Lebanese dare death to attack Israeli troops

BISSRI, Lebanon (R)—Lebanese commandos, finding easier routes into occupied South Lebanon blocked, have resorted to hazardous night climbs with explosives in backpacks in their attempts to get behind Israeli lines.

Teddy, an Israeli army captain, told Israeli-based reporters at this crossing point in Lebanon that his troops had caught 30 to 40 such groups of commandos in the past two months. Previously such attempts were rare.

Overlooking the steep gorge of the Bissri River, Teddy said his crack Golani Brigade caught such infiltrators by ambushing them and shooting to kill. The Bissri runs into the Awali River, the northern defence line of 12,000 Israeli occupation troops.

"I'm sure some get by us but most of those caught in our ambushes are killed," Teddy said. The groups of commandos had contained between three and 11 men.

Teddy said his unit had suffered two killed and 20 wounded in the ambushes in the past two months. There have been more than 50 attacks a month on Israeli troops in recent months and more than

600 have been killed since Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982, according to the army.

In an effort to prevent the entry of explosives and arms, the Israelis instituted new security measures at the main Bate-A-Shouf crossing point last August.

Vehicles have been barred from crossing Israeli lines and goods and people are transferred to other vehicles on the other side of the crossing point after a rigorous check.

Long queues form daily and elderly women trudge across the muddy crossing lines with sacks of food and cans of fuel after hours of waiting.

Some 60 to 70 lorries a day are processed here and a New terminal to handle more traffic is being built.

Pointing to lines of people waiting in the rain to go between two points in their own country, Teddy

said: "It may not be a very aesthetically sight but we have no choice. If we are lax here we'll pay for it with blood in other parts of Lebanon."

Should Israel pull back from its current line to one along the Zaharani River some 10 kilometres to the south, as some people in Israel advocate, security issues would change little, he said.

"We'd have a smaller area to cover but the Zaharani Valley is deeper and patrolling it would be even harder," he said.

Teddy added that most attacks on Israeli troops now took place further south since Israel had reduced its presence in Sidon and handed over control to the South Lebanon Army (SLA), a 2,500-man militia which it trains and arms.

Military officials say they are not convinced the rate would drop with a partial redeployment. Many also question the ability of the SLA to continue patrolling the area should Israel withdraw.

"We have to hope they'll be able to hold the fort but I have serious doubts about their combat ability," said one official, who asked not to be named.

Rabin: Lebanon has until Jan. 7 to break deadlock

TEL AVIV (R)—Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has said his country would have to act unilaterally if Lebanon did not break a deadlock in talks on an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon by Jan. 7.

The two sides are due to resume the talks in the Lebanese border town of Naqura on that date.

On Dec. 20 when the meetings were adjourned for a three-week holiday recess, Israel threatened in a formal statement to break off the talks if Beirut did not accept the redeployment of an enlarged United Nations peacekeeping force in South Lebanon.

Mr. Rabin told a television interviewer Friday night that "Lebanese stubbornness under Syrian pressure is preventing a political-military solution."

He added that, "if this persisted after Jan. 7, Israel will have to decide on what unilateral action to take."

"There are no easy solutions to the difficult situation in Lebanon, and every solution involves risks and dangers for Israel," Mr. Rabin said.

"Israel will have to choose between three options: To remain in its present positions in Lebanon, to withdraw to the international border or to reform a long and interim line in South Lebanon," he said.

Mr. Rabin refused to say what his recommendation would be if the problem came before Israel's coalition cabinet.

Right-wing Likud Bloc ministers have strongly criticised declarations by Labour Party leaders supporting a unilateral withdrawal, and oppose any move not accompanied by a political agreement.

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Coptic Pope to be released 'soon'

CAIRO (AP)—The patriarch of Egypt's Coptic Orthodox Church will be allowed to leave the desert monastery to which he was banished three years ago in time to lead Christmas services here, a state-controlled newspaper reports.

The daily Gumhuria, in its Saturday edition, said Pope Shenouda III will celebrate mass Jan. 7, the Coptic Christmas, at Cairo's Morcosia Church.

Gomhuria gave no attribution for the report, but said Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi visited the Pope at the Wadi Natrun monastery on Friday.

Last Sunday, the Coptic weekly Al Watani quoted "highly placed sources" as saying the government would announce a decision by the Pontiff would lead the Coptic Christmas mass in Cairo.

If the reports prove correct, it would mark the Pope's first appearance in Cairo since he retired to the monastery between Cairo and Alexandria following a dispute with the late President Anwar Sadat.

Mr. Sadat accused the controversial Pope Shenouda, the 117th leader of the Coptic Church since St. Mark, of fomenting tensions between Copts and the majority Muslim population.

The late president stripped Pope Shenouda of state recognition of his office, a move which prevented the Pontiff from exercising his legal obligations as head of the church.

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TRADE CENTRE OPENED: Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani Sunday opens a new centre for Spanish products in Amman. The centre deals with more than 30 Spanish products including furniture, lamps, souvenirs and gifts (Petra photo)

Iran warns against shipping attacks

TEHRAN (R)—In a clear warning against strikes on Gulf shipping, Tehran's inner war cabinet spokesman said Iran was able to hit one ship for each vessel using its ports attacked in the waterway.

The National News Agency-IRNA, in a report of statements Friday by Hajjatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said he had "repeated Iran's warnings to Iraq and its supporters in the region."

The statement follows an upsurge of attacks on major vessels—mainly tankers—in the four-year-old Gulf war. Iraq has claimed responsibility for a number of strikes, while Gulf shipping sources have said Iran carried out others.

IRNA quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying: "They know that except for a small area, the whole Persian Gulf is in the hands of our aircraft."

"(They know) we are able to attack one of their ships for every ship (attacked near Iran's Gulf oil terminals) and we will accept responsibility for none of them."

But Mr. Rafsanjani added it was "still not clear" if Iran had attacked any ships in the Gulf, IRNA reported.

He also repeated a warning that Iran would close the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf if Tehran's oil shipments were blocked by Iraqi attacks.

"This would mean eight to nine million barrels of oil not being exported per day, creating a situation for the world-fuel supply far worse than the one at the time of the victory of (Iran's Islamic) Revolution," he said.

He said, however, Iran did not want such a thing to happen. IRNA reported.

Mr. Rafsanjani, who is also the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, was speaking with members of the Islamic Republic Party at a meeting in Tehran.

Meanwhile, Iran's chief justice said Saturday Tehran wanted reciprocal action on aircraft hijackers and was ready to discuss with

other countries extradition agreements for the future.

Ayatollah Abdolkarim Mousavi Ardebili told a news conference that Iran would not hand over four men who hijacked a Kuwaiti airliner to Tehran earlier this month unless it received in return hijackers of Iranian planes.

Two U.S. aid officials were killed by the hijackers before Iranian security men stormed the Kuwaiti Airbus here.

Mr. Ardebili said he was surprised other countries had asked for the four hijackers to be extradited.

"Is this the first hijacking? Have they ever extradited hijackers of our aircraft, or do they want to claim this is a one-way affair?" he asked.

"In any case, we are ready to talk. If they want to talk about past cases, let both sides extradite the hijackers. We are also prepared to talk about the future to agree on both sides to extradite hijackers from now on," he said.

Unknown gunmen assassinate Qawasmeh near his house

(Continued from page 1)

front of the house and got out when two men approached him and shot him," Omar said. "I ran down but it was too late."

Mr. Qawasmeh was transferred to the nearby PLO hospital immediately after the shooting, but was pronounced dead on arrival.

Yusra, the grief-stricken wife of Mr. Qawasmeh, kept on repeating to friends and relatives who gathered at the Qawasmeh residence, "Oh sisters, they killed him... the Israelis must be happy about this."

She said she was in the kitchen preparing lunch when she heard "three clicks."

"I thought it was just children playing," she said. "But Muhammad came running in and screamed: 'Mama, they have killed father.'"

Mrs. Qawasmeh recalled that in the past week she had noticed two men watching the house and warned her husband about it. "I warned him, but he did not listen," she said. "He dismissed my fears and said we need not fear because he had done nothing wrong."

Last Wednesday, a bomb was discovered near the home of Arafat's political adviser Hani Al Hassan, in the same area as Saturday's murder. It was defused a few minutes before it was set to go off, according to Palestinian sources.

Apart from his wife and two sons—Omar and Muhammad—Mr. Qawasmeh is survived by two other sons and one daughter. His daughter Sabar, 22, and son Khaled, 21, are studying in the Soviet Union. Omar, Mouayeh and young Muhammad are going to school in Amman.

After extending condolences to Mr. Qawasmeh's two sons, brothers and relatives, the King said: "Words do not give the martyr his due praise... he was a brother, a friend and a martyr of the Palestinian and the whole (Arab) Nation. He fell on the long path of sacrifice to achieve the aspirations and goals that we all work for."

"With the determination of men, we will attain our Arab and Palestinian rights and as we have lost the dearest of our men, we now lose a man whose stands were honest and clear."

Mr. Qawasmeh's brother then spoke and said that his brother was "not the martyr of the Qawasmeh family but a martyr of the Palestinian revolution, the martyr of Jordan and the Arab Nation which offered thousands of martyrs since the 1920s."

"The fall of Martyr Abu Khaled will only strengthen our determination to continue the struggle to restore the rights of the Palestinian people and the establishment of its own national independent state," he said.

The PLO issued a statement condemning the assassination and mourning for the slain Palestinian leader. It said:

"Those who killed Martyr Qawasmeh wanted to gain by their evil deed what the enemy failed to achieve by striking at the main leadership and cadre of the Palestinian struggle as part of a bigger plot to annihilate the Palestinian revolution and cause. Qawasmeh fell a martyr in the battlefield in defence of the independent national decision. They (the assassins) shall not escape justice."

"The martyr was a symbol of the national Palestinian struggle who played an important role in the Palestinian leadership inside the occupied territories which is what prompted the Zionist leadership to expel him after various attempts on his life inside Hebron."

It said Mr. Qawasmeh was considered a "courageous struggling" Palestinian on an international level, especially after he was expelled from Hebron. "He played an important political and informational role which gained him the esteem and appreciation of many sectors in the world's public opinion to the interest of our cause," the statement said.

"Fahd Qawasmeh fell a martyr in the battlefield and joined his colleagues who presented their souls on the road to Palestine. Our great people will continue to carry its message and sacrifice to achieve victory and liberation," it added.

Commenting on the assassination, PLO Executive Committee member Archbishop Elias Khouri said: "It is a very tragic incident. He was a dear friend to all of us. I do not know why they did it... I just do not know."

Reached by telephone by the Jordan Times, Archbishop Khouri said the crime was carried out by "Zionist agents who aim to enhance divisions in the Palestinian ranks and confuse the world public opinion." He said: "Qawasmeh will not be the last one and he is not the first one. Many will still fall martyrs in sacrifice for our beloved homeland."

APU draws 1985 plan

DAMASCUS (Petra)—The Secretary General of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) said the APU has drawn up a comprehensive plan for its move on both Arab and international arenas during the next year.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, correspondent in Damascus Mr. Abdul Rahman Al Bourawi said the APU's move on the Arab arena arises from the necessity to seriously move towards unifying the Arab fold and leaving aside disputes among Arab countries and mobilising its resources to face the joint danger threatening them.

Speaking about the union's plan, he said, it will crystallise in its final form after being approved by the APU's Council which will meet in Aden during the last week of January. However, he added, the main concerns of the union are the current Arab situation, the Palestine question, the Iran-Iraq war, the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon.

On the international front, Mr. Bourawi said, the union's activity "will focus on establishing close relations with international parliaments, which we believe will constitute pressure on the governments of their countries."

He added that the APU will mobilise all Arab parliamentary resources to raise the Arab issues in the international arena.

The APU will take part in the 73rd session of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) which will be held in Togo in March.

Hikmat urges stronger cultural ties with Oman

MUSCAT (Petra)—Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Taber Hikmat Saturday stressed the necessity for consolidating cultural cooperation between Jordan and Oman in a manner reflecting the brotherly relations between the two countries.

Mr. Hikmat was speaking during a meeting with the Omani Minister of National and Cultural Heritage, Faisal Ibn Ali Al Said, during which he discussed means of strengthening bilateral relations in the fields of culture and archaeology.

Attending the meeting was the Jordanian ambassador to Muscat, Mr. Hikmat arrived in Muscat earlier on Friday on a four day official visit to Oman at the invitation of Mr. Ali Al Said.

The two ministers will hold a meeting Sunday to discuss a plan of action for cultural cooperation between the two countries.

Sudanese army says 600 guerrillas killed in clash

KHARTOUM (R)—The Sudanese army has said some 600 rebels were killed in fighting in southern Sudan on Tuesday, the official Sudan News Agency reported.

It quoted a source at the General Command of the Armed Forces as saying that only eight government troops were injured in the clash along the Juba-Bor Highway in Jonglei province in southern Sudan.

The source said government troops were still chasing the "fleeing rebels."

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(Continued from page 1)

front of the house and got out when two men approached him and shot him," Omar said. "I ran down but it was too late."

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1415 KHz

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00	..... Koran
17:10	..... Cartoons
17:40	..... Children's Programmes
18:00	..... Local Programme
19:30	..... Programmes Review
19:40	..... News Programme
20:00	..... News in Arabic
20:30	..... Review of the new programme cycle
21:00	..... Arabic Series
21:30	..... News in Arabic
23:10	..... Series continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00	..... French Programme
19:00	..... News in French
19:15	..... Varieties
19:30	..... News in Hebrew
20:00	..... News in Arabic
20:30	..... Review of the new programme cycle
21:30	..... Bob New Hart
22:00	..... News in English
22:15	..... Magnum

RADIO JORDAN

835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 9500 KHz, SW

07:00	..... Light Music
07:30	..... News at 7:30
08:00	..... Morning Show
08:30	..... News Summary
09:00	..... Morning Show
11:00	..... Pop Session
12:00	..... News Summary
12:30	..... Pop Session
13:00	..... News Summary
14:00	..... News Bulletin
14:10	..... Instrumentals
14:30	..... Science Report
15:00	..... Concert Hour
16:00	..... News Summary
16:45	..... Instrumentals
16:50	..... Old Favourites
17:00	..... Listeners' Choice
18:00	..... News Summary
18:30	..... Jazz Hour
19:00	..... News at 9:00
19:30	..... Date with a Star
20:00	..... Evening Show
20:30	..... News Summary
21:30	..... News Summary
22:00	..... Evening Show
22:30	..... News Summary
23:00	..... Evening Show
23:30	..... News Summary
24:00	..... News Headlines

06:00	News at 6:00
06:05	Financial Review
06:10	World News
06:15	World News
06:20	World News
06:25	World News
06:30	World News
06:35	World News
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24:00	World News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, KHz: 7200, 9365, 11740,
11925 & 15210

06:00	VOA Morning News, Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour, 06:15 Focus 17:00 News 17:10 News 17:15 News 17:20 News 17:25 News 17:30 News 17:35 News 17:40 News 17:45 News 17:50 News 17:55 News 18:00 News 18:05 News 18:10 News 18:15 News 18:20 News 18:25 News 18:30 News 18:35 News 18:40 News 18:45 News 18:50 News 18:55 News 19:00 News 19:05 News 19:10 News 19:15 News 19:20 News 19:25 News 19:30 News 19:35 News 19:40 News 19:45 News 19:50 News 19:55 News 20:00 News 20:05 News 20:10 News 20:15 News 20:20 News 20:25 News 20:30 News 20:35 News 20:40 News 20:45 News 20:50 News 20:55 News 21:00 News 21:05 News 21:10 News 21:15 News 21:20 News 21:25 News 21:30 News 21:35 News 21:40 News 21:45 News 21:50 News 21:55 News 22:00 News 22:05 News 22:10 News 22:15 News 22:20 News 22:25 News 22:30 News 22:35 News 22:40 News 22:45 News 22:50 News 22:55 News 23:00 News 23:05 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Home news

ACC directors approve JD 1m budget for 1985

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) board of directors has approved the corporation's JD 1,043,000 budget for the current year, of which JD 424,000 will be paid by the ACC as interest on local and foreign loans. The corporation's revenues were estimated at JD 1,400,000.

ACC Director General and Chairman of the Board Sami Sunna' told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the board has agreed to amend the rules and regulations for agricultural lending. He said that the lending ceilings have been fixed for various projects not to exceed a specific ratio of the ACC capital and he added that the interest rate has been amended to suit the goals of the projects and the beneficiaries. This step is within the corporation's plan aiming to direct

investment in the agricultural sector towards priority projects in the agricultural development programme as well as supporting rural agricultural projects by reducing interest rates on loans, Dr. Sunna' said.

He also pointed out that the ACC board of directors has decided to grant a total of JD 690,000 as loans to finance 88 various agricultural projects, thus bringing the value of credits offered by the corporation during the current year to about JD 5.5 million. The ACC volume of lending is expected to rise to JD 6.5 million during the coming year within the framework of the corporation's programmes and in the light of government plans which aim to develop and support the agricultural sector in the Kingdom, Dr. Sunna' concluded.

Arar reviews council of Arab interior ministers' programme

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar Saturday reviewed with the secretary general of the Arab interior ministers council, Dr. Akram Nash'at, issues related to the implementation of resolutions issued by the council during its third session held in Tunisia earlier this month.

Mr. Arar and Dr. Nash'at also discussed measures which will be taken by the council's general secretariat to carry out projects listed in its working programme for the year 1985. Included in the

1985 programme is holding the 10 conference for the Arab leaders of police and public security departments and preparations for holding the first conference against crime, the third conference for directors of narcotic departments and the meetings of the directors of criminal investigations, passports and traffic.

During the meeting, Dr. Nash'at expressed his thanks to Mr. Arar for the Jordanian government's concern and support for the council's general secretariat.

Hussein honours director of Karak supply department

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred upon Mr. Mufadhil Al Majali, the former director of Karak supply department, the Independence Medal of the Third Order in appreciation of his loyalty, dedication and good manners which he displayed during his 45 years of service in the government.

Minister of Supply Ibrahim

Ayyoub presented Mr. Majali with the medal Saturday during a special ceremony at Al Hussein Sports City. Mr. Ayyoub also presented the ministry's shield to Mr. Majali and praised his distinguished efforts, honesty and integrity throughout his years of service. Mr. Majali expressed his thanks to the King and to the minister and the ministry staff for honouring him.

University team in Baghdad to sign cultural agreements

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali Friday left for Baghdad on a several day official visit. Dr. Majali is at the head of a delegation from the university which will visit a number of Iraqi universities during their stay.

Dr. Majali is expected to sign bilateral cultural agreements with the Universities of Baghdad, Mustansiriyah and Mosul with the aim of consolidating scientific and cultural relations between Arab

universities in order to serve pan-Arab goals. The agreements provide for increasing cooperation and coordination in the fields of exchange of teaching staff and scientific visits in addition to joint supervision of students in higher studies programmes. The agreements will also provide scholarships for excellent students and exchanging student visits as well as increasing cooperation in the technical, technological and administrative fields.

King condemns murder

(Continued from page 1) rectifications, proposing proper solutions to any problem and presenting the proper recommendations that would enable the Department of Preaching and Guidance at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to achieve its ultimate goal, he said.

Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abadi, under-secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, also made a speech at the opening ceremony and stressed the urgent need to increase the number of preachers in Jordan. He said the total number of preachers in Jordan has reached to 1,215 apart from 348 *khatibs* who are not part of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, while 87 imams and preachers are non-Jordanians. Among the preachers working in Jordan and the West Bank 198 are females, he said.

The total number of mosques in the East and West Banks of Jordan number 1967, he added. "The modernisation and the developing process that we are calling for should be carried out within the rules of *Sharia* (Islamic Law) and preachers should also address the public on what might be useful to them, not what ple-

ases them, in a very simple way without alienation, estrangement, and complication," Dr. Abadi said.

Attending the opening session of the conference were Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and senior government officials and Islamic scholars.

During the three-day conference seven working papers concerning various issues related to Islamic preaching and guidance in Jordan are expected to be discussed.

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POLICEMEN GRADUATED: Public Security Director General Lieutenant-General Diab Youssef Saturday presents an award to a member of a group of Badia policemen who graduated Saturday (Petra photo)

Meteorology Department to build advanced weather forecast centre

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Department of Meteorology Director Ali Abanda said Saturday that his department is in the process of establishing a JD 250,000 national centre for accurate weather forecasting. He said that the centre is expected to be completed by the end of 1986 and that it will be located at Amman civil airport.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Abanda said that the project aims to present accurate weather forecasts a week in advance. He said that these forecasts will be used for various purposes and will be distributed to traditional weather forecast centres, airports and military bases in the Kingdom. In addition, the centre aims to develop medium and long range forecasts. He continued, Mr. Abanda added that this project will provide cable and wireless communications with the world at large, including contacts through satellites. He also said that the new centre will provide and transmit information about weather conditions and forecasts to all military bases with the required speed and accuracy.

The first phase of the scheduled project will be constructed on a piece of land covering the area of 2,000 square metres and will also include 8,000 square metres for aerials. He said that, during the first phase, a ground cable will be installed at the project site in order to pass information to military bases and airports. Also included in the first phase is setting up a reserve wireless receiver station, he added. Mr. Abanda said that the project will be connected with Bracel in England and Jeddah in Saudi Arabia in order to receive weather forecasts via satellites in orbit, including information from Arabsat when it is launched.

'New phase'

"1987 will witness a new phase for the centre which will be equipped with advanced and sophisticated machinery and apparatus including computers and artificial stations," he said. Mr. Abanda also indicated that the project's importance will lie in its capability for drawing advanced maps and developed weather clarification methods in order to modernise weather forecasts and to broadcast them through television and modern electronic forecasting equipment monitors which will be set up at the airport runway. The project also includes establishing a computer section to analyse weather maps and special



Ali Abanda

programmes, in addition to setting up a modern and advanced radio station at Queen Alia International Airport, Mr. Abanda said.

Included in the projected equipment to be set up at the centre is a 'developed satellite station for receiving weather information and cloud photographs from kinetic and static satellites, Mr. Abanda concluded.

Tal condemns U.S. decision to withdraw from UNESCO

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United States (U.S.) decision to withdraw from the membership of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) is a direct stab against the principles of UNESCO and offence to the policy of work and to international cooperation, UNESCO General Conference President Said Al Tal said Saturday.



Said Al Tal

In a statement issued Saturday, Dr. Tal said that the real loss for the UNESCO is represented in depriving the organisation from the efforts of U.S. intellectuals and depriving the American people of the opportunities to interact with cultures of the world. The loss is not a financial one, because financial loss can be made up for, Dr. Tal added.

Dr. Tal also expressed his hope that the U.S. will change its decision and will rejoin UNESCO for the sake of peace, security, freedom, democracy and progress.

Dr. Tal also said that he was informed of the U.S. decision to withdraw from UNESCO as of Jan. 1, 1985 by the organisation's director general. "I was expecting the U.S. decision, yet I was hopeful that the U.S. would reconsider its decision on withdrawal from UNESCO and would continue to play its role in supporting and enhancing the spirit of cooperation and joint work among the countries of the world in order to achieve peace, progress and prosperity," Dr. Tal said.

The U.S. decision reflects trend in international policies which might be interpreted by a number of countries as a counter action director against them and aiming to prevent them from achieving their aspirations for security, peace and progress," Dr. Tal added.

Dr. Tal went on to say: "Although the U.S. is viewed by a number of countries of the world as one of the castles of democracy, its decision to withdraw was not a democratic one in terms of spirit, form and context. The U.S. is withdrawing from UNESCO in protest against stands, actions and procedures that the organisation has adopted in accordance with democratic rules."

The negative aspects which the U.S. says exist within UNESCO can be found in all international organisations without exception and they also exist in many gov-

ernment departments, might even be found in the American administration itself, Dr. Tal said.

The correct approach to remedy these negative aspects, Dr. Tal added, is to remedy them from inside the organisation itself and not by withdrawing or threatening to withdraw from it.

Concluding his statement, Dr. Tal expressed hope that the U.S. government would reconsider its decision at the earliest possible convenience and would resume its full role in the organisation in order to continue its active participation together with the rest of the world, countries and nations in order to achieve peace, security, freedom, democracy and social advancement.

Newell defends pullout

Earlier this week, Gregory Newell, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for organisation affairs, defended the U.S. move to pull out from UNESCO during a teleconference from Washington. Answering questions from a panel of journalists in Amman, Mr. Newell noted that only 20 cents in the dollar given to UNESCO actually reaches the field. Much of that is spent on teaching revolution or on disarmament studies, rather than on training teachers, developing literacy programmes or doing scientific research, he added.

UNESCO "is not delivering goods and services to the Third World," he said. By spending its \$47-million UNESCO contribution on other programme, the United States will be increasing its effective aid by \$38 million, according to Mr. Newell, because at present 80 per cent of all contributions to UNESCO stay in its Paris headquarters.

Mr. Newell was asked where UNESCO would get the money to replace the U.S. contribution, which is 25 per cent of its total budget. "Frankly," he replied, "I

doubt if they'll get it from any place. Many major donors say they will not allow their assessments to be raised."

Mr. Newell said that the United States hopes its withdrawal will force the organisation "to return to its basic" of education and "away from polemical issues." The hostility of UNESCO toward the West was another reason for the U.S. withdrawal, he said.

UNESCO devotes a great part of its budget to discussing disarmament. Mr. Newell said. The United States has no objection to discussing the subject but feels there are other, better places to do it, such as at the Geneva talks and in the U.N. First Committee.

Such side issues are actually "destructive of the real problems of UNESCO," Mr. Newell said. Last year, he said, the organisation spent almost \$1 million to discuss disarmament and only \$62,000 on literacy programme for refugees.

Mr. Newell said the withdrawal from UNESCO does not mean the United States will disengage from other U.N. agencies. In fact, the United States has upgraded its participation in the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), for the first time sending an ambassador to represent it in FAO headquarters. Representations in other U.N. organisations has also been upgraded, he said.

Mr. Newell also said the question of Israel was not a factor in the U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO. In fact, he said, UNESCO "is one of the better agencies on Israeli participation" and "we appreciate that."

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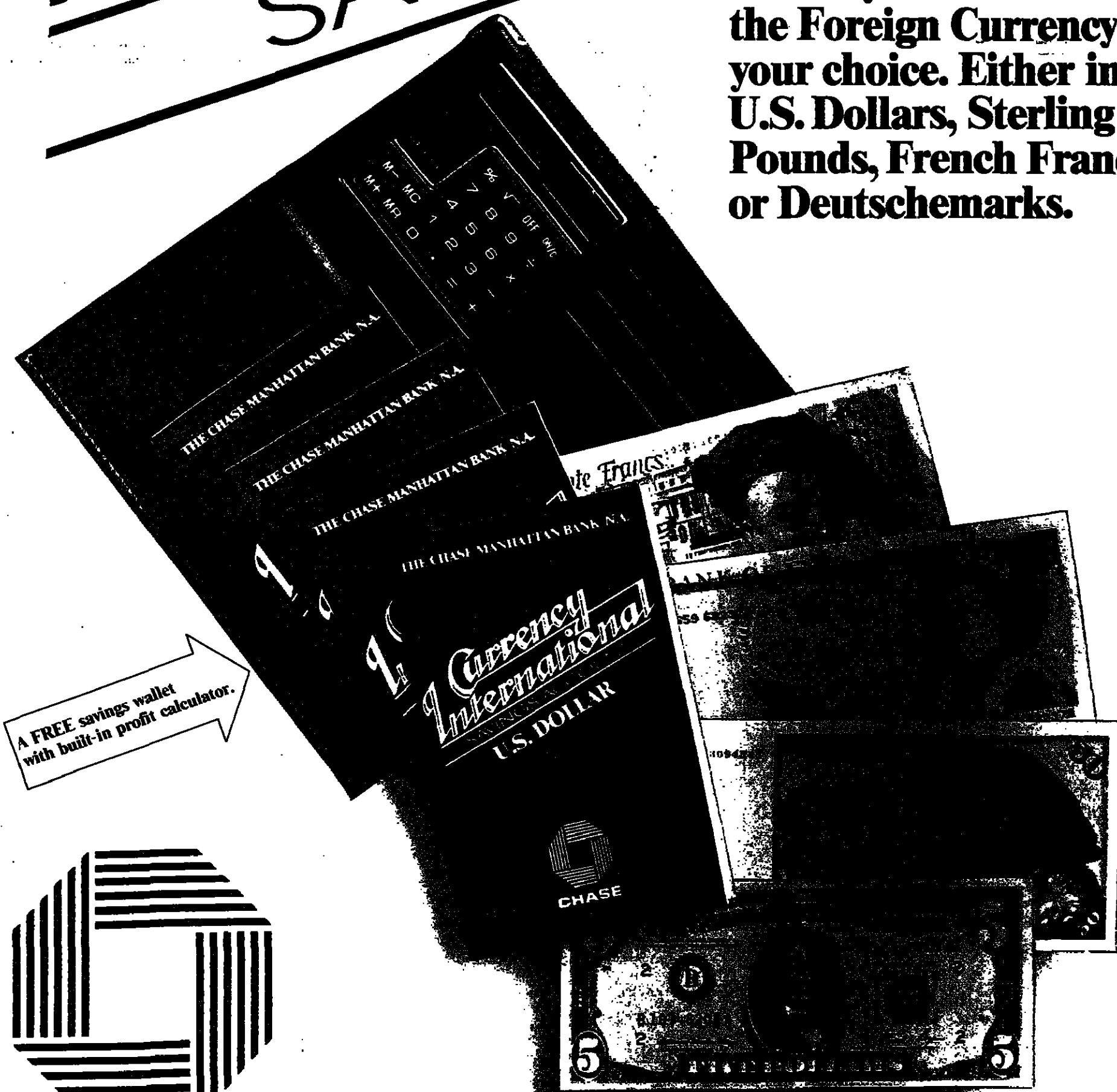
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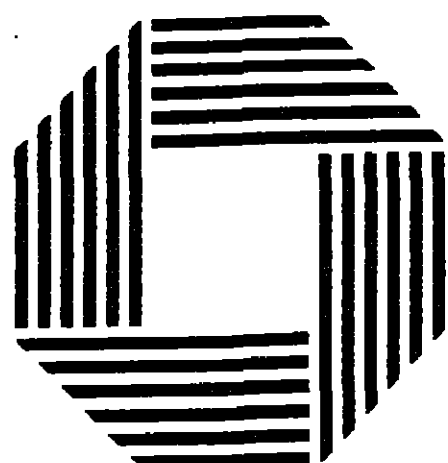
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United back on winning trail

LONDON (R) — Manchester United and Arsenal put their disastrous away records behind them Saturday and revived their challenges at the top of the English first division.

After a shock defeat at Stoke on Wednesday, United found themselves a goal down after only five minutes at Chelsea.

But first half goals by Mark Hughes and Remi Moses and another after 63 minutes by Frank Stapleton gave them a 3-1 win and halted a run of three successive away defeats.

Chelsea's hopes of clawing their back into the game sank when the league's leading scorer Kerry

Dixon missed a penalty 10 minutes from time.

Injury-hit Arsenal ended an even worse run of six successive away defeats with a well deserved 3-1 win at Newcastle.

Their hero was Charlie Nicholas who scored twice after being recalled to the side on the eve of his 23rd birthday.

But United and Arsenal failed to make ground on the top two, Tottenham and Everton, who

both eased home 2-0 without too much trouble — Tottenham at home to bogey side Sunderland and Everton away to Ipswich.

Leaders Tottenham welcomed back Glenn Hoddle after injury and the England midfielder man obliged with a goal from a 20-metre free kick after only eight minutes.

But Sunderland, who had beaten Tottenham in two of their previous three games this season and drawn the other, kept their hopes alive until the last minute when striker Garth Crooks sealed their fate.

Everton manager Howard Kendall complained before the game at lowly Ipswich that the pitch was unplayable. But the match went ahead and Graham Sharp, with two second half goals, made the argument academic.

With all four teams at the top winning, the most notable change was in fifth place where Nottingham Forest moved in from seventh after a dramatic 3-2 win at home to Aston Villa.

Forest manager Brian Clough dropped his 18-year-old son Nigel who had made his league debut in Forest's 2-0 win over Ipswich on Wednesday.

Egypt's National determined to win African Cup Winners Cup

YAOUNDE (R) — An estimated 80,000 Camerounians will pack Yaounde's Omnisport stadium to cheer local side Canon in Sunday's return leg of the African Cup Winners Cup final against Egypt's National.

Camerounian soccer fans are optimistic Canon can write off their one-goal deficit from the first leg and snatch their first African trophy in four years. Between 1978 and 1980, Canon won the Champion's Cup twice and the Cup Winners Cup once.

The Egyptians are equally determined to bring the trophy home and club officials say National will not rely on defensive play to preserve their slender lead.

Cameroun is the reigning African champion but at club level the last four years have been lean ones for Cameroun whose stars in the 1982 World Cup finals were lured by top European sides.

The likes of goalkeeper Thomas Nkono, defender Ibrahim Aoudou and midfielders Gregoire Mbida and Theophile Abega have been replaced by an equally talented

generation of new players led by veteran midfielder Emmanuel Kande.

Canon chairman Felix Olinga Jenner told Reuters he would like to give his country the trophy as a new year present.

But his side will face stiff opposition from a star-studded Egyptian team determined to take home the cup they brought in their luggage. The Cairo-based African Football Confederation (AFC) asked them if they could carry it to Yaounde. The cup was won last season by another Egyptian side.

National's bitter rivals Arab Contractors, whom they beat in the semi-finals.

National, winners two years ago of the more prestigious African Champions' Cup, will be without veteran striker Mahmoud Al-Khatib, 30, in London for treatment for a back injury.

But Canon goal-keeper Jacques Songo and veteran defender Ousama Eloundou are bound to be severely tested by striker Taher Abu Zeid and winger Mustapha Abdu.

"We will go all out to win since the best defence rests on attack," National manager Mahmoud Al-Sayes told Reuters.

A club official said his side was determined to make it a double for Egypt this season. Arch-rivals Zamalek won the African Champions' Cup.

The Egyptian defence, spearheaded by Rabia Yassin, could spend an uncomfortable after-

noon if Canon attackers Nguema, Eteme, Ewane and Gozo can repeat the form they displayed in their 5-0 trouncing of Nigeria's Enugu Rangers in the quarter-finals. Neither side has announced its line-up.

Egyptian gymnasts invited to perform in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Gymnastics Federation has extended an invitation to its Egyptian counterpart to visit Jordan to present special gymnastics performances during April, the federation's Secretary General Shafiq Al-Abdullat announced Saturday. He added that similar invitations have been sent to the national teams of the Soviet Union, East Germany, and the Iraqi Police team to perform shows in Amman at different periods.

World chess game 36 drawn

MOSCOW (R) — Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov, battling away at a world title chess match for three and a half months, Saturday agreed to draw game 36 adjourned Friday night. Reigning champion Karpov, who leads 5-1 and needs only one more game to retain the title, sealed his 41st move, Friday after a tense five-hour struggle.

National squash team to play in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian national squash team will play two matches with Jeddah team, which groups a number of foreign players, and Kuwait national squash team during a proposed tour of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait next March, in response to an invitation by the two teams.

The national squash team, the Arab youth champions has defeated the Kuwaiti team 3-0 in a match held in Bahrain earlier this year, as part of the Arab Youth Squash Championship.

Meanwhile the team has received an invitation to take part in the World Squash Championship, which will be held in Cairo in November.

The Jordanian National Squash Federation's President Jawdat Abdul Mumtaz will leave for Hong Kong to attend the meetings of the Asian Squash Federation which will be held on Jan. 7.

Monte Carlo Rally revived

PARIS (R) — The automobile Club of Monaco (ACM) has reversed its decision to cancel the Monte Carlo Rally and said it will go ahead as planned next month.

The decision follows the announcement by the French Motor Sports Federation (FFSA) earlier Friday that the rally could be staged under conditions similar to those of 1984.

The ACM said Thursday it was cancelling the event because of what it called unacceptable conditions set by the FFSA.

But in a communique issued Friday night the ACM said: "The ACM will thus organise the rally on January 26 under the same conditions as the 52nd rally in 1984."

It added that competitors should send in their entries by midnight on January 12.

The wrangle started in September when the ACM refused to pay the FFSA one million francs (\$110,000) for use of French territory and back-up services for the rally.

Last week France's supreme court, the council of state, backed Monaco's action.

"In order to lift all the obstacles and all points of conflict that could create difficulties for the organisation by the ACM, the FISA has decided that the 1985 edition of the Monte Carlo Rally will be organised by the ACM in the same conditions than in 1984," the FFSA said in the communique.

The ACM said Thursday that "it had been rendered incapable by the FFSA of carrying out its natural role as organiser freely and efficiently..."

It said it deplored the attitude of Balestr, who is also president of the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA).

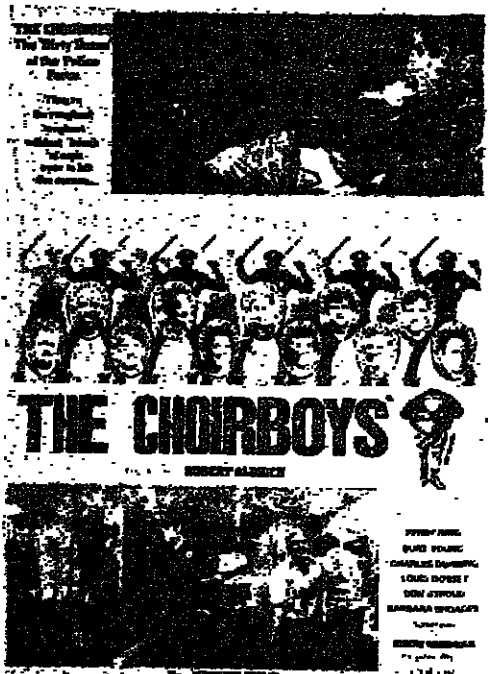
The ACM is also in dispute with the FIA, parent body of FISA, over the Monaco Grand Prix.

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China, Soviet Union sign three accords

PEKING (R) — China and the Soviet Union set the seal on improving trade ties between the estranged communist giants Friday by signing three accords on economic, technical and scientific cooperation.

The accords were signed by visiting Soviet First Deputy Premier Ivan Arkhipov, the highest-ranking Kremlin leader to visit Peking in 15 years, at the end of a nine-day trip which helped to reinvigorate their frosty relations.

The two countries agreed at the start of Mr. Arkhipov's visit to sign a 1986-90 trade pact next year.

The official New China News Agency (NCNA) said the two powerful neighbours agreed at the signing ceremony to establish a joint commission to oversee their developing economic, trade, scientific and technological relations.

They also signed accords on technical cooperation, aimed at Soviet help in upgrading Chinese factories, and general scientific and technological cooperation.

Vice Premier Yao Yilin signed for the Chinese side, NCNA said. Mr. Arkhipov toured areas of China's economic reforms in the south of the country.

His trip concentrated on developing economic contacts in which both sides had a big practical interest.

The Soviet Union needs food for Siberia while China wants Soviet technical help in upgrading factories built by Soviet experts.

The two countries have agreed to increase trade in 1985 to \$1.4 billion from \$1.05 billion this year.

But the Soviet Union still remains far behind the United States, Western Europe and Japan in trade with the lucrative Chinese market.

IMF approves credit package for Argentina

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Friday gave final approval to a financial rescue package designed to ease Argentina's \$4.5 billion debt burden, IMF officials said.

Approval of the reform programme by the fund's board of directors follows protracted negotiations between Argentina's 320 creditor banks, the fund and a number of governments.

It gives the country, the third largest debtor developing country after Brazil and Mexico, \$4.2 billion in fresh finance from the banks and extends the repayment period on \$16.5 billion of debt for up to 12 years.

The agreement with the banks, the cornerstone of the accord, allows the IMF to release about \$1.6 billion of its own money, including nearly \$270 million from the financial pool its uses to assist countries hit by a slowdown in exports.

Insurance hikes deter tankers from Kharg

LONDON (R) — Renewed attacks on ships in the Gulf and soaring war-risk insurance rates for hulls and cargoes have sharply depressed demand for tankers to sail to the Kharg island oil terminal, brokers said Friday.

Marine insurance sources said some brokers were quoting as much as 30 per cent before discount for the hulls of ships sailing to Kharg compared to three per cent last week.

Insurers were quoting war risk insurance premiums for oil cargoes from Kharg only on application, but rates were understood to be around five per cent of the cargo value against around two per cent last week.

Meanwhile, Japanese oil dealers have suspended shipments from Iran's Kharg island terminal because of the high cost of insurance, Tokyo traders said Friday.

War risk insurance premiums started climbing after an attack a week ago on the 112-885-ton tanker Thorshavet.

"It's just not economic for Japanese customers to lift Iranian oil at present," a spokesman for the Nishio Iwai oil trading company told Reuters.

The traders described the insurance increase as equivalent to more than \$1 a barrel on the oil price.

He said a projected voyage by the 230,000-ton Guam, a Panamanian tanker, was called off because of the situation.

EC settles steel row with U.S.

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) Friday night settled a long-running row with the United States over U.S. import curbs on Community steel pipes and tubes, a Community commission spokesman said.

The spokesman announced this after France approved the scheme under which the Community will be limited to a 7.6 per cent share of the U.S. pipes and tubes market from Jan. 1, compared with 14.6 per cent this year.

France held up Community agreement on the deal while it sought clarification that the French firm Vallourec, which makes gas pipeline equipment, would benefit from an exemption clause in the draft agreement.

The sticking point in the accord had been U.S. insistence that exemptions should be granted only in cases of contracts to fill orders which could not be met by domestic U.S. suppliers.

Greece and Italy voted against the deal, but their opposition was not sufficient to block the agreement which will be formally negotiated between the commission and the U.S. authorities on Monday, commission sources said.

Without agreement on the 7.6 per cent level, the U.S. would have introduced even stricter curbs from Jan. 1, with the threat of possible retaliation by the Community against U.S. exports.

Commission sources said the draft accord approved by the council of ministers' officials Friday night was exactly the same as the one which was ready on Monday when France demanded extra

time to consider it.

A stumbling block in the negotiations leading to the accord was U.S. insistence that output of a U.S. subsidiary of West Germany's Hoechst firm should be included when calculating the bloc's 7.6 per cent market share.

In order to allow this subsidiary to operate normally, the Community has allocated an extra 85,000 tonnes of sales cuts among member states, with West Germany taking 65,000 tonnes, the sources said.

Had there been no agreement Friday night, a special New Year's Eve meeting of Community industry ministers would probably have been called for Monday to try to reach a last minute solution.

U.S. officials had predicted a scramble by Community steel firms to unload pipe and tube shipments from U.S. customs warehouses in early January before a stricter 5.9 per cent limit was reached.

Community pipe and tube exports to the U.S. reached 1.1 million tonnes in the first nine months of this year compared with 475,000 in the whole of 1983 and 1.4 million tonnes in 1982.

However, on the basis of this settlement, diplomats say that relations between the United States and the EC should start 1985 on easier footing.

They said many difficulties remained between Brussels and Washington on trade issues, but that the settlement on European steel exports would improve the atmosphere between the two sides.

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OPEC to call special meeting next year to review monitoring scheme

GENEVA (R) — OPEC has decided to call an extraordinary meeting on March 28 to review the success of a monitoring scheme intended to prevent cheating on price and output agreements, a senior OPEC source said Saturday.

OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil ministers who are meeting here unanimously agreed Friday to set up a monitoring committee to ensure compliance with the organisation's rules.

Widespread flouting of existing accords has dented OPEC's unity and credibility.

The ministers Saturday discussed various proposals to solve the contentious issue of realigning their price structure.

The source said two proposals

were under consideration for a change in OPEC's \$29 a barrel marker price, one to reduce it by 25 cents a barrel and the other by 50 cents.

Conference chairman Dr. Subroto of Indonesia earlier said OPEC's three-nation differentials committee, tackling the difficult problem of the difference in prices of various grades of crude, had proposed adding 50 cents a barrel to cheaper heavy crudes and cutting 25 cents off high quality ultra light oils.

Heavy crudes, which cost as little as \$26 a barrel, are much in demand, and producers of the lighter grades argue that the present pricing structure is unfair to them.

Dr. Subroto, saying no agreement on price adjustments had been reached so far Saturday, added that compromise alternatives from the African and Gulf states were also under consideration.

He gave no details, but Ecuador's Oil Minister Javier Espinosa, Teran spoke of one call for 25 cents off lights and 75 cents on heavies, and Nigeria's Prof. T. A. David-West said Friday he would propose \$1.50 on heavies and no change in the lightest grades.

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because of the flouting of existing accords, a mild northern winter and plentiful non-OPEC supplies.

Signals from the North Sea producers — Britain and Norway — that they intended to link their prices to free market rates forced OPEC into the action seen at this conference.

Many oil traders are sceptical that Friday's monitoring agreement will be honoured, and still less that it will push world prices up.

But Gulf sources Saturday said the British National Oil Corporation had informally agreed to a plea from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait not to alter its prices for one month, to give the monitoring scheme time to prove its effect.

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LOS ANGELES (Agencies)—President Reagan has said the United States would make concrete suggestions to the Soviet Union on a wide range of arms control issues when the superpowers resume talks in Geneva.

"I believe they (the Soviets) are now coming around to the realisation that it is in their own self-interest to return to the table," Mr. Rowny said.



4 killed in

But it warned the 40-year-old prime minister and his youthful aides that India's problems were at

GOREN BRIDGE

troops still holding parts of their Nong Samet Camp near the Thai

The guerrillas said their advance was being impeded by mortar

The newspaper said the Ieresa home in Addis Ababa, named after her, was looking after 220 adults and 135 children in distress. Meanwhile the Ethiopian gov-

ther the attacking planes thought they were bombing rebels on the move. The wounded were treated in eastern Sudan by French doctors who extracted shrapnel from

The police action was condemned by Sheikh Gabier, Cape town chairman of the Muslim Judicial Council, who said: "This is

WASHINGTON (R) — Senator Gary Hart, still deeply in debt after his unsuccessful 1984 presidential campaign,

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duce six tricks for partner. Bid three no trump. Your hand should play as well at

His body was thrown into a dam on the River Vistula and discovered 11 days later.

adults and 135 children in distress. . . in eastern Sudan by French doc- supply should be delivered by a
Meanwhile the Ethiopian gov- tors who extracted shrapnel from system completely controlled by

"Such a council would be able to function unencumbered by the bureaucracy, ideology, and posturing that paralyse the United Nations," it said.

son of Mr. Reagan and his first wife, actress Jane Wyman, for about three years.

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